

Media Release

Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

Scott Mascher – Sheriff

255 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

Dwight D'Evelyn - Media Coordinator

928-777-7441



September 1, 2016

Stolen Vehicle recovered following Pursuit – 2 Suspects in-Custody

On August 31, 2016, at approximately 7:45 PM, a YCSO deputy travelling west on County Road 15 towards Bagdad drove up behind a silver passenger car moving in an unusual manner. The vehicle would speed up, then slow down for no apparent reason and continued this pattern for some distance. A records check of the California license plate revealed the vehicle, a 2013 Kia Optima, was reported stolen on August 22, 2016, out of Lodi, California.



Casteel



Brock

After coordinating assistance from area units, the deputy activated her overhead lights at mile marker 12, now on Highway 96, but the driver failed to yield and pulled away at high speed. Deputies followed the vehicle for several miles until it entered the community of Bagdad on Main Street. It appeared the suspect driver did not know the area as there is only one way in and out of town. Fortunately, there was little to no traffic nearby while the vehicle continued deeper into the Bagdad community. Eventually the suspect entered the mine operations parking area, stopped briefly, then made a U-turn and attempted to exit the parking lot going around a marked patrol vehicle. Failing to completely exit, the suspect turned into a posted no trespassing portion of mine property and ended up in a wash where the vehicle became stuck. The suspect and driver, 29-year-old Christopher Casteel from Georgia, was detained along with his girlfriend, 27-year-old Stacy Brock, from Tennessee.

Casteel admitted fleeing from the deputies because he knew the Kia was stolen. Casteel had taken the Kia from a fast food restaurant parking lot in Lodi, California. Casteel indicated he and his girlfriend were just 'joyriding' to no particular place at the time.

During the discussion with Casteel, the deputy detected impairment from marijuana use. Casteel admitted using marijuana within the previous 2 hours. The deputy, a certified Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), conducted specialized field sobriety tests and determined Casteel was DUI. A urine sample later tested positive for THC and methamphetamine.

During a search of Brock's purse, deputies found prescription pills and 2 types of narcotics based controlled substances. Brock had not been issued any prescriptions for these items. A needle used to inject meth was also located.

Casteel was booked on charges including Auto Theft, DUI with drugs, Aggravated DUI/Revoked License, and several counts of illicit Possession of Prescription Drugs. He remains in-custody on a \$30,000 bond. Brock was booked on charges including Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (felony level) and illicit Possession/Use of Prescription Drugs. She remains in-custody on a \$2500 bond.

Citizens can contact the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office with information or questions at 928-771-3260 or the YCSO website:
www.ycsoaz.gov